Software to run new channels of news and sports

1125. SHRI DINA NATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prasar Bharati have sufficient software to run new channels of news and sports; and

(b) whether any additional staff and fund for running these channels have been sanctioned towards meeting additional financial liabilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) It has been intimated by Prasar Bharati that sufficient software is available to run the New Channel but is inadequate so far as Sports Channel is concerned.

(b) No additional staff and funds have been sanctioned separately but the requisite staff and funds have been redeployed from the available resources to run these channels.

Telecasting of selected Punjabi Programmes

1126. SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA:
SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to relay/telecast selected programmes in Punjabi language for the benefit of Punjabi speaking people settled in U.S., Canada and other parts of the world; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) Prasar Bharati have intimated that programmes in Punjabi languages are already being telecast on the International Channel of Doordarshan—DD India, to cater to the needs of Punjabi speaking people settled in USA, Canada and other parts of the world. These programmes, telecast in various formats, reflect the cultural, social, artistic and literary activities of Punjab. These are very well received by the Indian settled abroad. DD-India also telecasts live the